

No 17!

Camp, near New Port News
Va. Feb 21. 1863

My Dear Wife Fannie

How do

you do this Eve. I am partly
thank you. I am keeled up
here on my bunk a writing
to my Fannie the Mail has come
in but no Letter for me I was
expecting a Letter to night
but I must wait until tomorrow
night now. I thought I would
write a little to night for I
dont know but we will have
Grand review tomorrow and
if we do I will be pretty busy
and perhaps will not get
a chance to write a whole
Letter so whil I write to night
is all clear gain. To Day I
have been fixing up my

First. I am with the Officers
of Co G we have good Quarters
& have a couple of good
Officers. We have a considerable
like spirit - one of them is a com-
ical genius I tell you he is
sick now or not fit for Duty.
Yesterday I went down to New
Port News to get me a Spectrum
Stove but couldn't get any there
so I went to General Milcox &
got my Pap approved I was
introduced to him (Milcox)
he shook hands & was pleas-
ant - as could be he approved
of my Pap & signed it & told
me to go to the Provost Marshal
& get his signature. I did so
& took the Boat & went to
Fortress Monroe there I got
a small Stove gave \$4.00 I
tell you Hattie it pays now
to night it is stormy & cold

out but as comfortable as
I could be here in my Tent I
bought me a vest - a black
one with brass buttons I nee-
ded one now I am where I
am. I sold my old vest to
Stephen Moore for 2/- paid
\$ 3.00 for my new one I bought
me a Rubber Overcoat - \$ 8.00
I tell you Hattie I made up
my mind the other day when
it rained so & I was out all
day that the first Rubber coat-
I saw for sale I would have
it - & I did I have got me a very
large one comes most to my
ankles I will have a good
deal of duty such as Picket-
ing & other Guard duty to
do have a Squad of Men
to see to and all old Soldiers
tell me a good Rubber coat-
is one of the best things a

fellows can have a fellow
wants to keep dry & warm here
to keep healthy dont you think
you would have bought one
if you had been me, it will
cost a considerable for me
to get started as a Lieutenant
but I shant be very extravagant
and I'll assure you my sword
& belt costs the most 23 \$
now I have a very good rig
my Hat was \$5.00 my shoulder
straps \$3.50 vest 3.00 fixing my
coat & pants \$1.38, for Buttons &
Pistol case \$2.00, making \$37.88
that I had to have any way the
coat I could have got along
without but I think my health
is better than \$8.00 dont you
my good wife Mattie I wish I
could have been at Home
when I was promoted & then
you could have bought me
my sword it would have been
worth as much again as it
will now if it had been a pres-
ent from you but I will try
and make it do its duty

now & Uncle Israel is good
he says I neednt - pay him until
I get ready. I have got pretty
much all now I will have to
at present in the Spring I'll have
to get me a light-sack for it will
be awful warm here in the Sum-
er that will cost me 7 or 8\$
but Hattie after I get one payment
now it will begin to tell some
I get \$3.50 a Day now but have to
live out of it & clothe myself
I grieve Hattie I will close for tonight
it is bed time so I'll go to bed &
Dream of you I did last night
& do most every night good night
Love & kisses & pleasant Dreams
good Morning Hattie. Kominie
how it Rains & has rained all
Day so far & it is about Noon
Now I have been visiting all
Day I have been up to Chaplain
Taylors Tent & saw Jim Cle-
ments had a good visit the

Chaplain is good company
I have had a good visit. I
told you it snowed a good deal
last night & then turned
around & rained hard so it is
awfully slippery & bad getting
around it. Can't be muddy
for it is so sandy here. Some or
rather one of the Captains hats
blew over this morning it made
nice times for them. I tell you
it blows a perfect hurricane
now but I am all right as yet
but perhaps I may wish I hadn't
said anything. Clements will
start about Tuesday morning
to day is Sunday 22 of Feb. I
guess I will go to a Dance
to night can't say. I am going
to get about \$30 of Clements
will have Father hire the
money & pay him I have to
use a good deal of money

that I wouldnt if I had been
Promoted but then I will soon
make it up at the Pay I am
now getting and then after I get
about 80 much then I wont have
to pay 80 much out all the
time but then there is know
knowing when I get any more
money but when I get a few
Months Pay from a Lieutenant
cy I dont know how much I
can make a month after I pay
for my clothing & Board but it
will be a considerable than I
could from my Orderlyes pay
but let the pay go & for some thing
else. Jim Clements has been here
just now I have had a quite a
chat with him my Tent is full
we have a stove & it is stormy
& cold so every body is down
& sit around to try & keep
warm it makes me provoked

others will sit around and
do nothing in pleasant weather
& then when it stormes those
that have comfortable quarters
have to stand back & let others
have the benefit - I'll kick up a
howl by and by I tell you both
Officers in my Comp. have just
got things from home they have
got quite a lot of things I don't
know what - yet you have written
me two or three times to know
if you should send me anything
more I hardly think Hattie it will
pay now I can get all I want to
eat & that that is good I can
get things at the commissaries
now that I couldn't get before
I was promoted it costs pretty
heavy to get things here as you
do & I can get most clothing
down here as cheap as you
can get it to me all there is
about it - you would make
them a great deal better &
they would be made longer
than I could buy I mean shirts
if you could send me stockings
they are so much better than I
can buy it - will pay I mean to
send them by mail I don't